

BEFORE THE INVESTIGATIVE PANEL OF THE  
FLORIDA JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

INQUIRY CONCERNING A )

JUDGE, NO. 02-487 )

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**NOTICE OF FORMAL CHARGES**

TO: The Honorable Gregory P. Holder, Circuit Judge,  
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Hillsborough County  
Courthouse, 419 Pierce Street, Tampa, FL 33602.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT the Investigative Panel of the  
Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, at its meeting held  
in Tallahassee, Florida on July 10, 2003, has determined, pursuant  
to Rule 6 of the Rules of the Florida Judicial Qualifications  
Commission, as revised, and Article V, Section 12(b) of the  
Constitution of Florida, that probable cause exists for formal  
proceedings to be instituted against you.

Formal proceedings accordingly are hereby instituted to  
inquire into the following charges:

1. On or about January 1998, while holding the  
office of Circuit Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
of Florida, you were enrolled in the McDill Air Force Base

Air War College seminar for the academic year 1997-98 and submitted a research report to the Faculty of the Air War College Directorate of Nonresident Studies, Air University, titled "An Analysis of the Anglo-American Combined Bomber Offensive in Europe During World War II, 1942-45." At the time, you held the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, United States Air Force Reserve. The research report was submitted in fulfillment of a writing requirement for the seminar, completion of which is generally a prerequisite for promotion to Colonel. Subsequently, you were promoted to the rank of Colonel, United States Air Force Reserve. In preparing and submitting the research report (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"), you committed plagiarism in that approximately 10 pages of the 21-page research report submitted by you were copied verbatim or substantially verbatim from a research report prepared in January 1996 by E. David Hoard, SAF/GCN, who was then attached to the Office of General Counsel, Department of Air Force, Washington, D.C., which research report (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B") had been transmitted to you via telecopy on or about September 5, 1997.

2. In submitting the plagiarized research report as set forth in paragraph 1 above, you signed a certificate stating, "I certify that I have not used another student's research work and that the creative process of researching, organizing, and writing this research report represents only my own work," which statement was false, and which constituted a criminal violation of Article 18, United States Code § 1001, of knowingly and willfully making a materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or representation in a matter that was within the jurisdiction of the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States.

3. The acts described above, if they occurred as alleged, were in violation of Canons 1, 2 and 5 of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

These acts, if they occurred as alleged, would impair the confidence of the citizens of this State in the integrity of the judicial system and in you as a judge, would demean your judicial office, would constitute a violation of the cited Canons of the Code of Judicial Conduct and the Rules of Professional Conduct, would constitute conduct unbecoming a member of the judiciary, would demonstrate your present unfitness to hold the office of

judge, and would warrant discipline, including, but not limited to, your removal from office.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, as revised, that you have twenty (20) days following service of this notice to file a written answer to these charges.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2003.

INVESTIGATIVE PANEL OF THE FLORIDA  
JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

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General Counsel for the Florida  
Judicial Qualifications Commission

- and -

BEDELL, DITTMAR, DeVAULT, PILLANS &  
COXE

Professional Association

By \_\_\_\_\_

—

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Special Counsel to the Florida  
Judicial Qualifications Commission  
Certificate of Service

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing  
Notice of Formal Charges has been furnished to the  
following this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2003.

The Honorable Gregory P. Holder [by Certified Mail]  
Circuit Judge  
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
Hillsborough County Courthouse  
419 Pierce Street  
Tampa, FL 33602

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